

REMARKS

Claims 1-4 are pending in this application.

35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejections

Claims 1 and 2 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 3,975,267 to Wendel in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,393,416 to Kozak et al. (hereinafter "Kozak"), and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,340,712 to Kunin et al. (hereinafter "Kunin"). The Examiner reiterates that it would have been obvious to rinse the resin of Wendel according to the teaching of Kozak, followed by regeneration with the ultra-pure water according to Kunin.

Claims 3 and 4 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Wendel in view of Kozak and Kunin, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,652,352 to Saieva.

The Examiner has indicated that claims 1-4 would be allowable if claim 1 were amended to change "comprising" in line 4 of claim 1 to read --consisting of--. Applicants have amended claim 1 as suggested by the Examiner.

Claims 1-4 are now deemed to be in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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By



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